

# NEWSLETTER OF THE

# Silicon Valley Accordion Society

**December 2014**

## SVAS NEXT MEETING:

**January 4, 2014 at Harry's Hofbrau**



### Paul Betken

At the age of 15 yrs., Paul mentored under the blind jazz accordionist, Leon Sash. Their friendship blossomed into a life long relationship with Leon's gifts of wisdom and music. He has performed for many years (as a soloist, with small groups and orchestras) throughout Metro Chicago. His experience is anchored in most all musical genre's in extensively varied venues. He has performed in shows, private parties, theatres, country clubs, hotels and lounges etc. He was a former resident accordionist in Chicago for Bobbi Vinton.

As a resident of Tempe, AZ for the last 10 years, he enjoys casual engagements and jam sessions all around town. He keeps active at national events and festivals. In June, 2014, he released his latest CD, "Paul's Turn – Jazz Accordion" showcasing the accordion in a Pop/Jazz mode featuring songs which one would not expect to be heard played on the accordion.

#### Past and recent performances:

Annual Arizona Accordion Festival (2007 to present); International Accordion Convention in Las Vegas (solo lunch concert – October 2010); Florida Smash, Southeast Accordion Association, Orlando, Florida, November, 2012, "A Tribute to Leon Sash," concert; North Hollywood Accordion Club, July 2012; 1<sup>st</sup> Runner-up, Senior Division, Roland Accordion Festival Competition (2012); the "Jazz Series" at Sacred Grounds, Phoenix, AZ, "A Tribute to Leon Sash" July, 2013; International Accordion Convention in Las Vegas (duet concerts - September 27, 2012 and October 28, 2013); Mesa Accordion event, concert – February, 2014; workshop and concert at the NAAC convention (Dallas, 2014); Cotati Accordion Festival, August, 2014. International Convention 06/2015

#### Anyone Plays –1:00 to 2:00 pm

Bring your accordion for the **OPEN PLAY** session at 1:00pm. We are counting on **YOU** to entertain us the first period. Sign in at the front table when you arrive.

#### THE SUNDAY SEVEN BAND

**The Sunday Seven Band**, was formed in 2008 by members of the South Bay Accordion Jam group. They will play a mixed variety of polkas and waltzes, Western, Irish and Italian.

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE at [SVASociety.org](http://SVASociety.org) and visit us on Facebook**



**Ken Caple,**  
President



**Bill Tapogna**  
Master of Ceremonies



Marybarbara Zorio  
SVAS Reporter

This month brings us to the close of another year. In review we had a lot of fun in 2014. We are innovating and trying to create more participation in our club activities. We are trying to build our membership to keep our organization sizable enough to provide the cash flow we need to continue providing our concerts at Harrys Hofbrau. Our biggest costs this year have been bringing in entertainers for us to hear and the purchase of replacement electronic equipment. Our new equipment was first heard at this months meeting

We are happy to have such an appreciative audience who give a hearty applause for all musicians playing at various levels of expertise. This is imperative to the encouragement of beginners trying to learn this difficult instrument.

Our organization has created three Bands from its membership. These bands have been developing nicely over the years. I would like to encourage other groups of musicians to start up a band. There is a special learning environment created when a group plays together. It is very gratifying and fulfilling to have a practiced performance and hear an applause of appreciation during a concert.

As you know this year we have lost some members due to the lack of youth. Their passing shows us that time will continue to march along with or without us. With this in mind we all must do what we can to staying healthy and happy. I know that music is a big factor in bringing happiness to all. We must continue as we can to walk the path of happiness and keep our accordions bellowing.

The December meeting was a special treat. Due to the varied program and the timing we did experience a little chaos. We were short handed on the management side for some of the time. In all it turned our well. I was happy to see Don & Dennis play, with Norma singing along. Pam brought Alvin back from the past with her chipmunk song.

I have to thank my wife Sharon for volunteering to prepare food for three days making our day very special with all the treats. It was a nice variety and went over will. We cleaned out about 98% of it by the end of the day. The amount was well planned. Thank You Sharon. Thanks also to the other ladies that brought cake and cupcakes.

Last of all I want to thank all of our board members for the hard work of 2014. Without a proactive board we would not have this Club.  
- Ken

The season delivers many reminders of why music matters and this year's SVAC December meeting was no exception! **William De Michelis** kicked off the festivities with an eclectic mix of familiar songs while we gathered in anticipation of an afternoon full of good music and holiday cheer.

**Eric Scheel** put us in the spirit with a few of our favorite Christmas classics including It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas and Frosty the Snowman.

**Sandie Stut Walters** was up next treating us to other holiday favorites such as White Christmas and Jingle Bells.



Did you miss a meeting performance? You can view some of it on youtube. To View Pam's Videos from past meetings: Go to youtube.com, type in accordionpam in the search field (next to the magnifying glass on top) for videos from the club .



ADVERTISE-  
MENTS :

a new era in accordions . . .



**GIULIETTI**

Visit the sound of Giulietti

[www.giuliettiusa.com](http://www.giuliettiusa.com)

206-632-2700

A sound for every genre of music, Classical  
Jazz, Blues, Cajun, Zydeco, Musette, Ethnic  
and Folk . . .

**THE ACCORDION APOCALYPSE REPAIR SHOP**  
★★★★★  
**SKYLER FELL**  
Buy • Sell • Trade  
Tuning & Repairs  
Accessories & Sheet Music  
Lessons & Rentals  
by appointment  
255 10th St. (upstairs)  
San Francisco, CA 94103  
415-596-5952  
accordionapocalypse@yahoo.com  
[www.accordionapocalypse.com](http://www.accordionapocalypse.com)



ACCORDION  
REPAIR SHOP

Playing less never sounded so good !



**New AM-1000 Leggera**  
Full size 4/5 set reeds  
**Tone Chamber**  
**Amazing 23 lbs**

Meet the Mighty "LITTLE PRO"

Perfect for . . . . Cajun, Zydeco, Blues, Rock-n-Roll,  
Alternative Folk,  
sing-a-longs.  
Extremely Small and  
Portable with an Amazing  
Sound – all weighing **14 lbs**



**petosa accordions**  
[www.petosa.com](http://www.petosa.com) Since 1922  
313 NE 45th Street • Seattle, WA 98105 • (206) 632-2700

**Kisner Law Firm**  
Attorney Since 1975



**ELDER LAW  
WILLS AND TRUSTS  
PROBATES  
REAL ESTATE LAW  
ACCORDIONS**



Dan Kisner, Attorney      3900 New Park Mall Road, 3rd Floor  
Telephone: (510) 791-5790      Newark, CA 94560  
daniel@kisnerlaw.com      **Call for free phone consultation**

**ACCORDION TEACHERS:**

Peter Di Bono: San Francisco	(415) 753-1502
Lynn Ewing: San Carlos	(650) 453-3391
Sharon Walters Greyhosky: Daly City	(650) 731-6010
Lou Jacklich: San Lorenzo	(510) 317-9510
Marian Kelly: Portola Valley	(650) 854-1896
Richard Yaus: San Bruno	(650) 832-1740
Mike Zampiceni: Sunnyvale	(408) 569-2579
Norma Zonay-Parsons: San Jose	(408) 244-2762
Sheri Mignano, Petaluma	(707) 765-1657



The Preprogram Open Play saw a change of pace as the **Happy Days Band** filled the next hour with the sounds of Tex-Mex, a unique fusion of country, blues and south-of-the border. SVAC president, and band director, **Ken Caple**, gave a short introduction to songs such as Deep in the Heart of Texas, Jalisco, Mexicali Rose, The Wayward Wind, and Solamente Una Vez. We found it impossible to resist singing along to Heartaches by the Number and The Wayward Wind.

**Louis Rodriguez** returned to SVAC with his Hohner Gola to entertain us with a fantastic set that included Dernier Lamento, Scherzo, Jorge Adios and the most remarkable of melodies Drummer's March composed by Hermann Zilcher. Louis played this piece as if we were viewing a band marching by, starting softly, getting louder and ending as if marching away. Amazing!

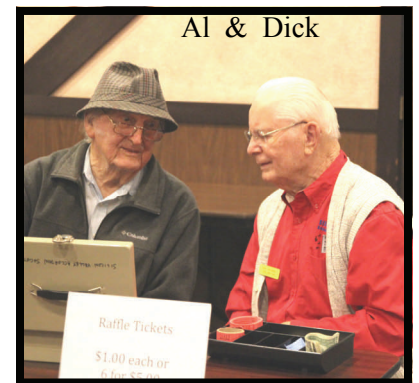


It takes special skills to prepare and serve food that is as pleasing to the eye as to the taste buds. Applause all around was expressed to all those who brought treats to this month's event. Special appreciation to **Sharon Caple** who shared her many culinary talents by treating us to a whole table full of delicious goodies, both sweet and savory.

This month's raffle winners were Pam Kawashima, Art Maggio, Ken Caple, Karen and Sharon.



Barbara & Vic



Al & Dick



Please invite your friends to join our SVAS Musical Event  
The more the Merrier  
We all love music, especially  
Accordion Music

WELCOME New Members: Betty Ruth Hogue.





Friends for many years, **Don Pandori and Dennis Stoscher** accompanied **Norma Zonay Parsons** as they led us in singing the holiday standards of Santa Claus is Comin' to Town, Winter Wonderland and White Christmas.



Don and Dennis played background to accordionist and our very own webmaster, **Pam Kawashima**, as we all sang The Chipmunk Song. Hard to believe that the song won three Grammy Awards in 1958!

**Marcia Coullahan and Marybarbara Zorio** followed with a lovely Christmas melody written by Olive and Joseph Zampiceni entitled Christmas is Here Once Again. Olive and Joseph are parents to Mike Zampiceni, a frequent guest soloist at SVAC and teacher extraordinaire to some of our members.



We were treated to a surprise performance by a newly established group! Among the musicians who performed Jingle Bells were **Nia, Lyndie, Scott, and Gloria**.



**Vic Corsiglia** wowed us on accordion as **Barb Corsiglia** treated us with the sweet sounds of an Irish concertina. They played Come Down from the Heavens and What Child is This.

Harry Warren, the American composer and lyricist, is very much admired by **Bud Bye** who played one of his favorite tunes, That's Amore.



**Lyndie** (a young woman of many talents), put down her bass and picked up her trumpet to join members of **Sunday Seven** in playing a few songs of the yuletide season.

## COMING EVENTS

## Coming Events at SVAS: Jan 4, Meeting

Doors open at 1:00 pm

1:00-2:00 pm Preprogram: Open Play2:00—2:15 pm Presidents Message & Master of Ceremonies Introductions2:15--3:00 pm First Half Program : **Sunday Seven Band**3:00-3:15 pm Break & Drawing3:30-4:30 pm Featured Player: Paul BetkenFebruary - Absolut AccordMarch—Frank Petrelli BandApril—Ron Borelli**Remember to bring your accordions for the OPEN PLAY**

Visit SVAS on FACEBOOK and post your photos

## SVAS BOARD of Directors / Officers

PRESIDENT:	KEN CAPLE, 408 892-2760
VICE PRESIDENT:	BILL TAPOGNA , 408 984-5290
SECRETARY:	ART MAGGIO , 408 269-4122
TREASURER:	BOB STANFIELD , 650 888-3701
DIRECTORS:	DICK SIUDZINSKI, 408 736-5153 SCOTT BADER SUE DOUGLAS PAM KAWASHIMA
WEBMASTER:	PAM KAWASHIMA pkawashima@outlook.com
NEWSLETTER EDITOR:	KEN CAPLE, 408 892-2760
SVAS REPORTERS:	Sue Douglas , Marcia Coullahan Marybarbara Zorio, Georgia Sutherland


 ♪ **Who's Playing???** ♪

**William DeMichelis**—Music with an accent, 408-375-0001, accordionist.sanjose@comcast.net

**Reno di Bono** plays the second Friday of each month at **Montavalle** in Scotts Valley, dancing to the **Blue Moon Trio**.

**Joe Domitrowich/AlpinersUSA**: see www.alpinersusa.com or www.capricious-accordion.com or call 408-255-1259

**Mike Zampiceni** - Accordionist (408) 569-2579, Mike plays at Paesano Restaurant on Sunday evenings.

**AbsolutAccord**: Schedule Concerts with Norma Parsons (408) 246-3073, www.absolutaccord.com

**Sunday 7** : Schedule Concerts with Bob Stanfield (650) 888-3701

**Happy Days Band**: Schedule Concerts with Ken Caple (408) 892-2760

**Due Zighi Baci**— Schedule Performances with Sheri Mignano @ sfmignano@yahoo.com

**Ernie Beran** — Plays at the Tyrolean Inn Restaurant in Ben Lomond, CA every Saturday 6:00-9:00 pm

**Richard Denier**— Plays at Lugano's in the Barnyard, Carmel on Thursday evenings.

**Northern California ACCORDION CLUBS Meeting schedules:**

**Accordion Club of the Redwoods (ACR)** meets on the third Monday of the month. Herman & Sons Hall, 860 Western Avenue, Petaluma CA 94952. Contact: (707) 795-4060.

**Golden State Accordion Club (GSAC)** has three divisions:

1. **The Vacaville Club** meets the second Thursday of the month at 6:30 PM, Pietro's N.2, 679 Merchant St, Vacaville, CA 95687, Starting July 12, 2012, Except for June and December.
2. **The Humboldt Club** meets on the third Tuesday, 7:00 PM., Humboldt Swiss Club, 5403 Tompkins Hill Road, Loleta, CA 95551.
3. **The Sacramento Club** meets on the fourth Wednesday of the month at 6:30 pm at the Old Spaghetti Factory, 12401 Folsom Rd., Rancho Cordova CA 95742. Contact for all the GSAC: Carole Enneking (707) 864-2359.

**Good Time Accordion Club (GTAC)** meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 7:00 PM, Escalon Community Center, 1055 Escalon Ave., Escalon, CA 95320. Contact Ed Sciarini (209) 545-3603.

**Northern California Accordion Society (NCAS)** meets on the first Wednesday of the month 6:30 PM 6365 Douglas Blvd., Lutheran Church Social Hall, Granite Bay, CA 95746. Contact:

**San Francisco Accordion Club (SFAC)** meets on the third Sunday of the month 2:00 PM . Oyster Point Yacht Club, 911 Marina Blvd. South San Francisco, CA 94080. Contact Lynn Ewing 650-453-3391.

**Silicon Valley Accordion Society (SVAS)** meets on the first Sunday of the month, 1:00 PM at Harry's Hofbrau, 390 Saratoga Avenue, San Jose, CA 95129. (between Kiely Blvd. and Stevens Creek Blvd. Contact: Bill Topogna (408) 984-5290.





## Bud Bye

I grew up and attended schools in the Monterey Bay Area during the '40's and '50's. I started accordion lessons at seven with Tony Vyeda, later Marty Artellan, local performers. We received radio shows on San Francisco stations where I regularly heard Dick Contino play "Lady of Spain" on the Horace Heidt program. I was hooked. I still am. It's still a thrill to hear him play that piece. Even though favorite people like Myron Floren were wonderful accordionists, Dick Contino is unmatched on "Lady of Spain" in my opinion.

Jim Boggio of Cotati Festival fame attended my high school and played in our dance bands for a while in the '50's. I admired his playing, continuing mine at home.

In 1960 I transferred to San Jose State where Bill Tapogna was already a student. I soon started a 35 year career in law enforcement. Family and work consumed most of my time so accordion went on the back burner

like many in SVAS. I played occasionally but also learned to play pop piano on an old Kimball someone gave me. After retirement in 2003 I became serious about music. I joined the Santa Clara Senior Center Band as accordionist and backup pianist where I played for years. There were no other senior bands to my knowledge in the South Bay. We played gigs for seniors from Los Altos to Pleasanton. After over 25 years the Santa Clara group disbanded. Several of us joined a new musical group at Sunnyvale Senior Center which, in two years, has developed into a core of regulars who are constantly improving. Recently I joined Ken Caple's Happy Days Band.

I own seven accordions, an organ and grand and digital pianos. I average one to two hours per day playing time. My favorite music is "oldie" pops, Hawaiian, Latin and Italian standards and polkas. One son and one grandson are church music directors. They play keyboards and other instruments but not accordion.

I only have one special accordion story. One day while shopping at a large estate sale at a Cupertino winery I spotted a clean looking accordion case. Inside was a white, near perfect "La Melodiosa" accordion. I picked it up and started playing some simple music. To my surprise the lady ahead of me started to sing and dance her way down the aisle so I followed her. We were having a grand time when some of the sale staff members started screaming simultaneously "she's a singer" pointing to this woman. It was Joan Baez having a fun private moment. Needless to say she disappeared in an instant. I felt sorry for her—and me! I bought the accordion. Does this mean I can put "played for Joan Baez" on my resume? Maybe not!

### Performance Tips

Memorize your song(s) if you can

- If you use a music stand, put it as low as you comfortably can so the audience can see you and your accordion
- Before starting, engage the audience with some information on your next song, when it was released, who the composer was, ask if anyone knows of the song, etc.
- Make occasional eye contact with the audience if you can.
- When playing in a group, listen and play only with the lead instrument. don't play with your neighbor who may not be playing with the lead instrument.

Then Smile!

### Attention all SVAS Accordionists

We would like to publish your Photo and Bio in the newsletter. Please do a 300 word write up about your accordion history and interests then send it and your favorite photo to us to publish.

NEWSLETTER OF THE

# Silicon Valley Accordion Society

P.O. Box 1513  
Los Altos, CA  
94023

FIRST CLASS POSTAGE 🎵



**Silicon Valley Accordion Society meetings held first Sunday of each month at Harry's Hofbrau, 390 Saratoga Avenue, San Jose, corner of Kiely. Doors open at 1:00, Music begins at 1:15, Meeting begins at 2:00 p.m. door fee \$5, under 16 no charge.**